

**Amendments To The Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting the calcium cascade comprising administering to an animal in need thereof an effective amount of [[a]] at least one metal ion that blocks the calcium cascade.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the metal ions are selected from the group consisting of zinc, copper, magnesium, manganese, iron, and aluminum, and mixtures thereof.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the animal is suffering from an autoimmune disease which causes secretions and eruptions via the Calcium cascade.

4. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the animal is suffering from rhinitis.

5. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the animal is suffering from herpes virus infection.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the metal ions are administered through the mouth to the nasal cavity.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the metal ions are in a composition which has a pH of about 4.8 so that the metal ions are delivered across the mucous membranes of the mouth into the nasal cavity.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7 wherein the composition contains an amino acid as a buffer.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8 wherein the amino acid is glycine.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein the metal ion is zinc.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the metal ions are copper and zinc.

12. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein the metal ion is in a dosage form based upon Teorell-Meyer gradient of differing pH levels between the repository compartment and the recipient compartment.

13. (New) A method for inhibiting the formation of histamine by blocking the calcium cascade comprising

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administering to a patient in need thereof and effective  
amount of at least one metal ion that blocks the calcium  
cascade.